	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/476,877	AUSUBEL, LAWRENCE M.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Frantzy Poinvil	3628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *the amendment filed 3/3/2006*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *87-194*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)
1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

FRANTZY POINVIL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
AU 3628

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest means for

transmitting bid information to the auctioneer's system, the bid information

including bids each comprising a set identification S and a value parameter P where

the set identification S identifies a set of items that a user proposes to transact and

where the value parameter P specifies a value proposed by the user for the set of items

identified by S at least one of the bids including a set identification S identifying at

least two different items and selecting means which selects bids to maximize a function

of the value parameters P of the selected bids as recited in independent claim 87.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest

means for transmitting bid information to the auctioneer's system, the bid information

including bids each comprising a set identification S and a value parameter P where

the set identification S identifies a set of items that a user proposes to transact and

where the value parameter P specifies a value proposed by the user for the set of items

identified by S at least one of the bids including a set identification S identifying at

least two different items and selecting means which selects bids to maximize a function

of the value parameters P   of the selected bids subject to a constraint that the sets S

identified by the selected bids are compatible as recited in independent claim 97.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest receiving bid related information from users and transmitting bid information for processing by a computer, the bid information including bids   each comprising a set identification S and a value parameter P where the set identification S   identifies a set of items that a user proposes to transact and where the value parameter P specifies a value proposed by the user for the set of items identified by Si   at least one of the bids including a set identification S identifying at least two different items and determining at the computer in response to the bid information whether the auction should continue or terminate, the determining including selecting bids to maximize a function of the value parameters P of the selected bids as recited in independent claim 107.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest receiving bid information from users and transmitting bid information for processing by a computer, the bid information including bids   each comprising a set identification S and a value parameter P where the set identification S   identifies a set of items that a user proposes to transact and where the value parameter P specifies a value propsed by the user for the set of items identified by S   at least one of the bids including a set identification S identifying at least two different items and determining at the computer in response to bid information whether the auction should continue or terminate, the determining including selecting bids to maximize a function of the value parameters P of the selected bids subject to a constraint that the sets S   identified by the selected bids are compatible as recited in independent claim 117.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest means for receiving bid information, the bid information including bids   each comprising a set identification S and a value parameter   P where the set identification   S   identifies a set of items that a user proposes to transact and where the value parameter P specifies a value proposed by the user for the set of items identified by S. at least one of the bids including a set identification S identifying at least two different items and means at the computer for determining, based on the signals, the items to be assigned to users, the determining means including selecting means which selects bids to maximize a function of the value parameters P   of the selected bids as recited in independent claim 127.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest means at the computer for determining based on the signals, the items to be assigned to users, the determining means including selecting means which selects bids to maximize a function of the value parameters P of the selected bids subject to a constraint that the sets S identified by the selected bids are compatible as recited in independent claim 137.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest determining at the computer based on the signals the items to be assigned to the users, the determining including selected bids to maximize a function of the value parameters P of the selected bids as recited in independent claim 147.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest determining at the computer based on the signals the items to be assigned to the users, the

determining including selecting bids to maximize a function of the value parameters P of the selected bids subject to a constraint that the sets S identified by the selected bids are compatible as recited in independent claim 157.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest means for receiving bid related information from users and transmitting bid information for processing by a computer, the bid information including bids each comprising a set identification S where the set identification S identifies a set of items that a user proposes to transact at the current proposed prices, at least one of the bids including a set identification S identifying a set containing at least two different types of items and means for selecting bids to maximize a function of values of the selected bids based on the current proposed prices as recited in independent claim 167.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest means for receiving bid related information from users and transmitting bid information for processing by a computer, the bid information including bids each comprising a set identification S where the set identification S identifies a set of items that a user proposes to transact at the current proposed prices, at least one of the bids including a set identification S identifying a set containing at least two different types of items and means for selecting bids to maximize a function of values of the selected bids based on the current proposed prices subject to a constraint that the sets S identified by the selected bids are compatible as recited in independent claim 174.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest receiving bid

related information from users and transmitting bid information for processing by a

computer, the bid information including bids each comprising a set identification S

where the set identification S identifies a set of items that a user proposes to transact

at the current proposed prices, at least one of the bids including a set identification S

identifying a set containing at least two different types of items and selecting bids to

maximize a function of values of the selected bids based on the current proposed prices

as recited in independent claim 181.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest receiving

bid related information from at least one of said users and transmitting bid information

for processing by a computer, the bid information including bids each comprising a set

identification S where the set identification S identifies a set of items that the user

proposes to transact at the current proposed prices, at least one of the bids including a

set identification S identifying a set containing at least two different types of items and

selecting bids to maximize a function of values of the selected bids based on the current

proposed prices subject to a constraint that the sets S identified by the selected bids

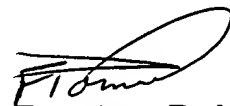are compatible as recited in independent claim 188.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Frantzy Poinvil whose telephone number is (571) 272-

6797. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00AM to

5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Sam Sough can be reached on (571) 272-6799. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Frantzy Poinvil
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3628

FP
May 12, 2006